

SIKKIM



GOVERNMENT

GAZETTE

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No. 390

**GOVERNMENT OF SIKKIM
HOME DEPARTMENT
GANGTOK**

No. 72/Home/2020

Dated: 05/11/2020

NOTIFICATION

In exercise of powers conferred under chapter XV of the Sikkim Prison Manual, 2010 and in supersession of Notification No. 15/Home/2017 dated 17/03/2017, the State Government is pleased to reconstitute the Board of Visitors comprising of Official and Non-Official members at District level.

1. The Board of Visitors shall comprise of the following Official Members;

Serial No.	Designation and Department	Designation
1	District Magistrate of the Concerned District.	Chairman
2.	Chief Medical Officer or Medical Superintendent of the concerned District.	Member
3.	Joint Director, Horticulture Department of the concerned District.	Member
4.	Divisional Engineer, Building and Housing Department of the concerned District.	Member
5.	Superintendent of Prisons of the concerned District.	Member Secretary

2. The Board of Visitors shall comprise of the following Non-Official Members for the East and North Districts for a period of three years from the date of their appointment to the Board and may be considered for reappointment namely: -

Serial No.	Name and Designation	Designation
1.	Shri Aditya Golay (Tamang), Hon'ble MLA	Member
2.	Mrs Leela Sharma, Member, Sikkim State Commission for Women (for State Central Prison, Rongyek)	Member
3.	Smt. Mingma Lhamu Bhutia, President, Tarulam Association, Mangan, North Sikkim	Member
4.	Shri Phurba Tamang, Social Worker and Ex Panchayat President, Chnogay, East Sikkim	Member

3. The Board of Visitors shall comprise of the following Non-Official Members for the South and West Districts for a period of three years from the date of their appointment to the Board and may be considered for reappointment namely:

Serial No.	Name and Designation	Designation
1.	Shri Aditya Golay (Tamang), Hon'ble MLA	Member
2.	Ms. Noorjaha Begum, Member, Sikkim State Commission for Women (for District Prison, Namchi)	Member
3.	Shri Shanta Kumar Pradhan, Social Worker Namchi, South Sikkim	Member
4.	Miss Smita Rai, Social Worker Aley, Namchi, South Sikkim	Member

The task of the Board of Visitors shall be as follows:-

- (a) Monitoring the Correctional work in Prisons, with special attention to the degree and quality of training and the effectiveness of infrastructure facilities in the prisons.
- (b) Suggesting new avenues leading to improvement in correctional work.
- (c) Going into individual or collective grievances of Prisoners and providing redressal in consultation with the Prison authorities.
- (d) The Board of Visitors shall meet in the office of the Superintendent of Prisons at least twice in every year.
- (e) The minute of every meeting of the board of Visitors shall be recorded in the visitors Minute Book and the same shall be forwarded to the Deputy Inspector General/ Sr. Superintendent of Prisons with the comment of the In-Charge of the District Prison. A copy of the minutes shall be dispatched to every member of the Board of Visitors.
- (f) The Deputy Inspector General/ Sr. Superintendent of Prisons shall place a copy of the minutes of the meeting of the Board of Visitors of all the Prisons before the State Advisory Board.
- (g) The Chairman of the Board of Visitors if so desires will make a monthly rooster of visits to be paid by the Member of the Board to the Prison in consultation with Superintendent of Prisons.
- (h) During the visits a Visitor will enjoy right to converse with any prisoner who is willing to talk to the visitor. However, such separate interaction between a visitors and a prisoners shall be held in a place within the Prison wall within the sight of the Prison Officer.
- (i) The visitors, immediately after such conversation with the prisoners shall inform the Chairman of the Board in writing about what transpired in the conversation with the Prisoners. the Chairman, if he thinks necessary shall take up the matter with Superintendent of Prisons.
- (j) The member of the Board of Visitor shall especially attend to the quality and quantity of Prison diet, condition of the kitchen, medical treatment of prisoners and sanitary arrangement for the prisoners.
- (k) The Superintendent of Prisons shall present before the visiting Member/ Members of the Board of Visitors any paper, documents pertaining to correctional works, recreational, prison diet, medicine, grievances of prisoners and follow redressal of such grievances, if it is sought by the visiting Member of the Board.

- (l) The Superintendent of Prisons shall not be bound to present any register/documents/papers pertaining to financial account before the member of the Board of Visitors.
- (m) Following any such visits by the Member/ Members of the Board of Visitors, the Superintendent of Prisons shall inform the Deputy Inspector General/ Sr. Superintendent of Prison regarding the details of the visit.
- (n) Every visitors shall, after he has completed his visit to the prison record in the visitors' book the date and hour of his visit, and may enter therein any remarks or suggestions he may wish to make. A copy of these remarks shall be forwarded to the Deputy Inspector General/ Sr. Superintendent of Prisons who should pass such orders as he think necessary.
- (o) The State Government reserves the right to cancel appointment of any Non-Official Members at any time without assigning any reasons thereof.
- (p) The Board of Visitors shall ordinarily not visit high security cell unless the instruction in this behalf is granted by the Deputy Inspctor of Genera/ Sr. Superintendent of Prisons except for the Chairman.
- (q) Every non-official visitors is expected to interest himself in the upkeep of prisoners and visit the prison of which he is a visitor as advised by the Chairman.
- (r) The Superintendent shall ensure that the prisoners lodging complaints with the visiting member/ members of visitor do not subsequently fall prey to vandetta of the accused or prison staff complained against.

The following shall be the Duties of Visitors:

- (1) All visitors, official and non-official, at every visit shall :-
 - (i) Examine the cooked food;
 - (ii) Inspect the barrack, wards, work-sheds and other building of the prison generally;
 - (iii) Ascertain whether consideration of healthy, clealiness and security are attended to;
 - (iv) Examine prison registers and records, except secret records and records pertaining to accounts;
 - (v) Hear and attend all representation and petitions made by or on behalf of the prisoners; and
 - (vi) Direct, if deemed advisibale, that any such representation or petition be forwarded to the Government.

By Order and in the name of the Governor.

**R. Telang, IAS
Principal Secretary,
Home Department
Government of Sikkim,
File No.241/GOS/JAIL/2005**